

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 067374

NODIS
BRAZILIA, RIO DE JANERIO FOR WISE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SUMMIT MEETING IN LAGOS

1. ON MARCH 20, DISCUSSING RHODESIAN DEVELOPMENTS WITH
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AMBASSADOR YOUNG, NIGERIAN COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
GARBA SUGGESTED THE IDEA OF A SUMMIT MEETING IN LAGOS
DURING PRESIDENT CARTER'S STOP IN EARLY APRIL. THE MEETING
WOULD INVOLVE PRESIDENT CARTER, GENERAL OBASANJO, PRIME
MINISTER CALLAGHAN, AND PRESIDENTS KHAMA, KAUNDA, NYERERE,
MACHEL AND NETO. MEETING WOULD FOCUS ON RHODESIA, ALTHOUGH
OTHER SOUTHERN AFRICAN TOPICS PRESUMABLY COULD BE RAISED.

GARBA'S PURPOSE SEEMED TO BE TO ACHIEVE SOME DEGREE OF AGREEMENT AMONG BRITISH, AMERICANS AND AFRICANS WHICH WOULD PERMIT US TO MOVE FORWARD IN OUR EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE A SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM.

2. ON MARCH 13, AMBASSADORS YOUNG AND MCHENRY ADVISED GARBA THAT WE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE WITH SUCH A MEETING. THEY TOLD GARBA THAT WE THOUGHT A LAGOS SUMMIT COULD BE A USEFUL FOLLOWUP TO THE NEW YORK MEETING OF ALL THE RHODESIAN PARTIES WHICH WE AND THE BRITISH ARE SEEKING TO ARRANGE.

3. GARBA, WHO HAD MEANWHILE GOTTEN APPROVAL FROM OBASANJO, SAID THAT HE WOULD BE GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE OTHER FRONT

LINE LEADERS TO DISCUSS AND PARTICIPATE IN A LAGOS SUMMIT. HE MIGHT TRAVEL TO THEIR CAPITALS TO COMPLETE PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING.

4. FOR ALL ACTION ADDRESSEES: PLEASE ADVISE, WITHOUT CONTACTING YOUR HOST GOVERNMENT, ITS LIKELY REACTION TO A SUGGESTION FOR A LAGOS SUMMIT. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE HAVING ANY OTHER COMMENTS YOU MAY HAVE ON THE TOPICS FOR CONSIDERATION AT SUCH A MEETING, THE APPROACH TO THE ISSUES CONCERNED AND THE LIKELY POSITIONS OF THE OTHER INVITEES.

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5. FOR LAGOS: IN ADDITION, IN REVIEWING THE LAGOS SUMMIT SUGGESTION WITH THE FMG, ANYTHING YOU CAN LEARN WITH REGARD TO FITTING THIS MEETING INTO THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE IN NIGERIA, WOULD BE HELPFUL. PLEASE REPLY SOONEST.

6. FOR LONDON: SUGGEST YOU INFORM HMG OF FOREGOING AT APPROPRIATE FCO LEVEL ON STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS NOTING THAT INITIATIVE RESTS WITH NIGERIA AND IS NOT BEING PRESSED BY US. VANCE

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NNN

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